



Overseas returnee CONUS assignment list available

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for people returning from overseas and CONUS mandatory movers from May through July will be available Jan. 11.

Individuals need to work through their military personnel flights or their commander's support staff to update their preferences by Jan. 25. Deployed personnel must work with their PER-SCO representative to update assignment preferences. Airmen will be notified of their selection by mid-February, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials here.

People can view the lists from the AFPC home page at <https://afas.afpc.randolph.af.mil/amsweb/master.cfm> or at their local MPF.

More Airmen eligible for ribbon

WASHINGTON – More Airmen can wear the Air Force Recognition Ribbon for winning service-level competitions and awards.

A recent change to an Air Force instruction allows members of small teams participating in events such as security forces' Defender Challenge, Air Mobility Command Rodeo or the William Tell competition at Air Combat Command to wear the decoration.

In the past, named individuals who received Air Force-level special trophies and awards listed in Air Force Instruction 36-2803 "The Air Force Awards and Decorations Program," could wear the ribbon. The instruction expanded Dec. 6 to include individual members identified as part of a small team.

A small team is defined as below flight level. Examples include a team for a specific event, or an airlift or missile crew of the year, or a weapons load crew. The complete instruction governing the ribbon, AFI 36-2805, Special Trophies and Awards," is being revised to reflect the recent change. *(Story by Tech. Sgt. David Jablonski, Air Force Print News)*

Airmen in for long haul at Bagram

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan (AFPN) – Where gravel was once the material of choice, concrete now sets in preparation for new buildings and storage areas at the Air Force sector here.

The 455th Air Expeditionary Wing is growing to match the organizational



Photo by Master Sgt. Michael Farris

Water relief

BANGKOK, Thailand – An Airman here teams up with a Thai volunteer Saturday to organize bottles of drinking water at the international airport. He and 100 others from the 353rd Special Operations Group are flying supplies to the tsunami-hit areas of southern Thailand. The 353rd SG is assigned to Kadena Air Base, Japan.

structure more common to other Air Force wings, said Brig. Gen. James P. Hunt, the wing's commander. The restructuring marks the move from a temporary presence to an enduring presence for the unit whose primary mission is to provide aerial cover for U.S. and coalition ground troops in Afghanistan.

"I think we'll see the wing getting a little larger for the next year or so as we consolidate operations in this area of the world to just a few bases to save personnel and resources," General Hunt said.

On Nov. 30, the wing, more than 600 people strong, gained an expeditionary mission support group which includes senior leaders focused on living conditions and mission support for deployed Airmen. The new group also freed operations leaders to concentrate solely "on providing the best possible support to the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines on the ground," the general said.

General Hunt said the combined team has made significant changes to the camp since the beginning of their tour in September.

"Everyone has pulled together to make it happen," General Hunt said. "The 455th AEW will probably be here at Bagram for a long time to come.

(Story by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs)

Predators help TACP Airmen

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq (AFPN) -- If mentioned at all, tactical air control party Airmen are usually linked with a group of special forces on the front lines.

Normally these Airmen find themselves out in the field directing combat aircraft against insurgents or coordinating artillery fire with air strikes, but most certainly not hanging out with the RQ/MQ-1 Predator Unmanned Aerial Vehicle.

However, as odd as it may sound, there actually is a small group of the Airmen working with the Predator here at Balad. It is a new mission for everyone involved, and it is changing daily, officials said.

"It is brand new; we didn't even know about it before we got here," said Master Sgt. Morrey Grymes, who is a joint terminal attack controller with the 116th Expeditionary Air Support Operations Squadron. "My predecessor ... and his team 'wrote the book' when they were here; now we're edit-

ing and fine tuning it."

With help from the Predator, this small group of Airmen is providing intelligence, surveillance, armed reconnaissance and base defense for the Army's 1st Infantry Division here. Although it is not their usual job, they are still playing an important role for the troops on the ground.

As Predators gather information and intelligence, often they come upon insurgent activity that may need to be dealt with immediately. As the liaison here between the Predators and the Soldiers on the ground, these Airmen have the final release authority before a UAV can fire its ordnance.

"We're still doing the same thing we've always done," said Tech. Sgt. Robert Grutko, who is a 14-year TACP veteran. "Except we're looking at it from 10,000 feet in the air." *(Story by Staff Sgt. Ryan Hansen, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs)*

Airmen earn award

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Four Airmen are being recognized with the service's Lance P. Sijan Air Force Leadership Award:

The Sijan award annually recognizes a senior and junior officer and a senior and junior enlisted person who demon-

strates outstanding leadership abilities while assigned to organizations at the wing level or below.

The 2004 recipients are:

-- Lt. Col. Mark Moore, who is assigned to Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Colonel Moore managed an aggressive flying hour program and led multiple deployments. He developed the concept of operation for the critical international security assistance force expansion.

-- Maj. Joseph Michalek, who is assigned to Hurlburt Field, Fla. Then a captain, he used his vast tactical expertise to prepare six crews under his command for sustained combat deployments in one of the most complex integrated air defense systems in the world.

-- Master Sgt. John Spillane, who is assigned to Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. As loadmaster superintendent of the 745th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, he led his deployed team of 66 active-duty and Reserve loadmasters to unparalleled success in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

-- Tech. Sgt. Matthew Fader, who is assigned to Hurlburt. Sergeant Fader executed missions while under fire inside Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He flew 92 combat sorties, and delivered 231 passengers and 510,000 pounds of cargo. *(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)*

NOTES, FROM A1 –

Hickam Officers Spouses Club event – The Hickam Officers' Spouses' Club will host Margaret Hall Hoybach during their function Jan. 18. Ms. Hoybach is an artist, author, entertainer and lecturer from Charleston, S.C. The social will begin at the Hickam Community Center at 11 a.m. and lunch will begin at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$10.50 for the sandwich bar. For reservations, call Jolande Murray (A-L) at 423-7097 or Jeannette Ramirez (M-Z) at 422-7444. Reservations must be made by noon Jan. 14. Permanent reservations apply.

Heart Link workshop – New Air Force spouses are invited to participate in the next Heart Link workshop Jan. 21 from 7:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Family Support Center. Expert presenters, panelists, games and scenarios on military customs, acronyms and your role in the Air Force mission will be presented. Childcare is available and lunch is free. Call 449-0300 to register.

Wing command section and IG office moves – The 15th Airlift Wing Command Section and the 15th AW Inspector General

offices have moved and will return to their original spaces approximately late March or early April. All phone numbers remain the same and both sections still reside in Building 1110.

The command section is now located on the second floor where the 15AW/IG offices once were and the 15 AW/IG directorate moved from the second floor to the first in Rooms 118 and 120. Any questions, contact the 15 AW/CCA at 449-6345.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration breakfast – The annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration breakfast is Thursday from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club. Guest Speaker is Major General (S) Edward Rice Jr.. The menu is a breakfast buffet and the cost is \$11 (members) or \$13 (non-members).

Ticket POCs:

Capt Lopez (PACAF/RSS)	CMSgt Agee (PACAF/IG)
MSgt Scott (15 SVS)	MSgt Holloway (15 CS)
TSgt Evans (PACAF/CCCE)	TSgt Thompson (UH)
SSgt Clark (17 OWS)	SrA Bateman (PACAF/CE)
AIC Dansby (15 SFS)	AIC Cliett (PACAF/RSS)

The Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Golf Tournament – The annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. golf tourney is Jan. 14 at Mamala Bay Golf Course. Registration begins at 11 a.m. with a 12:30 shotgun start. The four-person scramble teams tourney costs \$45 which covers everything - green fees, cart and lunch with beverage. No handicap or AAHA Membership is required. Fee payable to "African American Heritage Association." For more information, call Major Ren Brown at 449-0623.

Ohana group meeting – The JICPAC Ohana Group will be holding its monthly meeting Thursday at 7 p.m. at Lockwood Hall, Naval Base Pearl Harbor. The Ohana is a social organization and is open to all spouses of JICPAC personnel. Children are welcome. January's meeting will be a cookie exchange. Attendees are asked to bring four dozen of their favorite cookies, along with the recipe and a container to take home goodies. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at Lockwood Hall.

Contact Mona Darwich-Gatto, club president, for more information at 497-4297 or email her at m_darwich@yahoo.com.